

ADDING WEIGHT TO YOUR TESTIMONY #2 "Moral Excellence"

2 Peter 1:4&5

Intro: Someone has stated that the only thing we will take with us into eternity is character. This hinges on choice. Excellence is not automatic. This is a choice that would be more than what would be the normal or natural choice. Here we look at God's Solution. Faith is equated with Gold. Admonition here add to by moral excellence.

2 Peter 1:5/26translations

Now for this reason you must do your level best to supplement your faith with moral character-WMS

With all this in view, you should try your hardest to supplement your faith with virtue-NEB

Now for this reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence-NSAB

I. The Moral Dimension

A. God/Framework

1. Sexual expression confined marriage

a. Adultery forbidden. **Exodus 20:14**¹⁴ "You shall not commit adultery.

2. Not covet neighbor's wife.

a. **Exodus 20:17**¹⁷ "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor's." **(LUST AFTER)**

B. Explicit Directions/ Sexual Expression

1. Moral purity emphasized

a. Virginitly Highlighted

2. Aberration, condemned, judged.

a. Bestiality, Incest, Homosexuality

II. The Historical Record/

A. Flagrant examples

1. Jacob's Daughter/Son Hamor

a. **Genesis 34:1-5**¹ Now Dinah the daughter of Leah, whom she had borne to Jacob, went out to see the daughters of the land. ² And when Shechem the son of Hamor the Hivite, prince of the country, saw her, he took her and lay with her, and violated her. ³ His soul was strongly attracted to Dinah the daughter of Jacob, and he loved the young woman and spoke kindly to the young woman. ⁴ So Shechem spoke to his father Hamor, saying, "Get me this young woman as a wife." ⁵ And Jacob heard that he had defiled Dinah his daughter. Now his sons were with his livestock in the field; so Jacob held his peace until they came.

2. Judah/Tamar

a. **Genesis 38:15-16**¹⁵ When Judah saw her, he thought she was a harlot, because she had covered her face. ¹⁶ Then he turned to her by the way, and said, "Please let me come in to you"; for he did not know that she was his daughter-in-law. So she said, "What will you give me, that you may come in to me?"

3. Reuben/Bilhah

a. **Genesis 35:22**²² And it happened, when Israel dwelt in that land, that Reuben went and lay with Bilhah his father's concubine; and Israel heard about it. Now the sons of Jacob were twelve:

B. Lurid History/Violation

1. Amnon/Tamar

a. **2 Samuel 12:14**¹⁴ However, because by this deed you have given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, the child also who is born to you shall surely die."

2. David/Bathsheba

a. **2 Samuel 11:2-4**² Then it happened one evening that David arose from his bed and walked on the roof of the king's house. And from the roof he saw a woman bathing, and the woman was very beautiful to behold. ³ So David sent and inquired about the woman. And someone said, "Is this not Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?" ⁴ Then David sent messengers, and took

her; and she came to him, and he lay with her, for she was cleansed from her impurity; and she returned to her house.

3. Ahithophel's advice

a. **2 Samuel 16:20-22** ²⁰ Then Absalom said to Ahithophel, "Give counsel as to what we should do." ²¹ And Ahithophel said to Absalom, "Go in to your father's concubines, whom he has left to keep the house; and all Israel will hear that you are abhorred by your father. Then the hands of all who are with you will be strong." ²² So they pitched a tent for Absalom on the top of the house, and Absalom went in to his father's concubines in the sight of all Israel.

III. The Moral Excellence

A. Ruth/Ancestral Bloodline

1. **Ruth 3:11** ¹¹ And now, my daughter, do not fear. I will do for you all that you request, for all the people of my town know that you are a virtuous woman.

a. **Proverbs 31:10-12** ¹⁰ Who can find a virtuous wife? For her worth is far above rubies. ¹¹ The heart of her husband safely trusts her; So he will have no lack of gain. ¹² She does him good and not evil All the days of her life.

(1) In the sense of all forms of excellence

2. Virginity/Emphasized/Bride

a. Tokens, Marriage bed

B. Guard/Guidelines

1. Eye Hole/Key Moral Excellence

a. Job: I will set no wicked thing before my eyes.

b. Pornography: The writings of harlots

1. **Isaiah 57:7-8** ⁷ "On a lofty and high mountain You have set your bed; Even there you went up To offer sacrifice. ⁸ Also behind the doors and their posts You have set up your remembrance; For you have uncovered yourself to those other than Me, And have gone up to them; You have enlarged your bed And made a covenant with them; You have loved their bed, Where you saw their nudity.

(translations)

2. Job: Underlying issue

a. **Job 31:1** ¹ "I have made a covenant with my eyes; Why then should I look upon a young woman? **(Look intently at/gaze)**

(1) **Matthew 5:28** ²⁸ But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

3. Historical Warning/Guidelines

a. **Genesis 6:5** ⁵ Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

4. Jesus/As the days of Noah/So Last Days

a. An evil and adulterous generation

5. Joseph: Potiphar's wife

a. **Genesis 39:7-9** ⁷ And it came to pass after these things that his master's wife cast longing eyes on Joseph, and she said, "Lie with me." ⁸ But he refused and said to his master's wife, "Look, my master does not know what is with me in the house, and he has committed all that he has to my hand. ⁹ There is no one greater in this house than I, nor has he kept back anything from me but you, because you are his wife. How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?"

(1) **Genesis 39:12** ¹² that she caught him by his garment, saying, "Lie with me." But he left his garment in her hand, and fled and ran outside.

(2) **1 Corinthians 6:18** ¹⁸ Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body.

(3) **2 Timothy 2:22** ²² Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.